

IN THE SPECIFICATION

At page 6 of the specification, please replace the BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS with the following new BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS:

-- **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

For a more complete understanding of the invention, and for further features and advantages, reference is now made to the following description, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

For a more complete understanding of the invention, and for further features and advantages, reference is now made to the following description, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIGURES 1A and 1B are elevation and plan views, respectively, of a system for manufacturing or repairing parts according to one embodiment of the invention;

FIGURE 2 is a block diagram of a laser based additive manufacturing ("LBAM") system that includes a powder delivery system according to one embodiment of the invention;

FIGURE 3 shows an elevation view of a portion of the powder delivery system of FIGURE 2 according to one embodiment of the invention;

FIGURE 4 is a graphical representation of powder feeding rates as a function of rates of rotation of a metering device according to one embodiment of the invention;

FIGURE 5 shows a plan view of a flow determining device including an optical electronic system according to one embodiment of the invention;

FIGURE 6 is a cross sectional elevation view of a powder nozzle according to one embodiment of the invention;

FIGURE 7 is a block diagram of a computer for use in the system of FIGURES 1A and 1B according to an embodiment of the invention;

FIGURE 8A is a flowchart illustrating an example method of controlling the size of the molten pool in laser-based additive manufacturing according to an embodiment of the invention;

FIGURE 8B illustrates an example graph and FIGURES 8C-8G illustrate example images from the graph of FIGURE 8B showing successful

control of a molten pool in laser-based additive manufacturing according to an embodiment of the invention; and

FIGURE 9 is a flowchart illustrating an example method of controlling the operational weld parameters in welding-based deposition processes according to one embodiment of the invention. --